

if said first game result meets certain criteria, initiating a bonus game, said bonus game being other than a random game, said bonus game generating and displaying a bonus game result using said circuitry and displaying said bonus game result on said video screen,

said generating and displaying said first game result and said bonus game result being performed by the same hardware in said slot machine so as to require no additional hardware to generate and display said bonus game result; and granting an award to a player based on said first game result and said bonus game result.

- 2. The method of Claim 1 wherein said bonus game result is a bonus award for achieving a particular first game result.
- 3. The method of Claim 1 wherein said bonus game result identifies an additional award paid to a player.



4. (Three times amended) A slot machine comprising:

circuitry within said slot machine for generating a first game result pursuant to a first game, by displaying a combination of symbols randomly selected from a first set of symbols;

a video display screen on said slot machine for displaying said first game result; and circuitry within said slot machine for initiating a bonus game, said bonus game being other than a random game, said bonus game generating and displaying a bonus game result, if said first game result meets certain criteria, and displaying said bonus game result on said video screen;

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wherein generating and displaying said first game result and said bonus game result is performed by the same hardware in said slot machine so as to require no additional hardware to generate and display said bonus game result.

- 6. The machine of Claim 4 wherein said bonus game identifies an additional award paid to player.
- 7. The machine of Claim 4 wherein said first set of symbols represent playing cards.
- 8. The machine of Claim 4 wherein said first set of symbols are symbols on a video reel.
- 9. The machine of Claim 4 wherein said bonus game result comprises indicia that fills a grid pattern.
- 10. The machine of Claim 4 wherein said bonus game result comprises letters.
- 11. The machine of Claim 4 wherein said bonus game result comprises numbers.
- 12. The method of Claim 1 wherein said first set of symbols represents playing cards.
- 13. The method of Claim 1 wherein said first set of symbols are symbols on a video reel.
- 14. The method of Claim 1 wherein said bonus game result comprises indicia that fills a grid pattern.

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- 15. The method of Claim 1 wherein said bonus game result comprises letters.
- 16. The method of Claim 1 wherein said bonus game result comprises numbers.
- B. Please add the following new claims 17-20.
- 17. (New) A gaming method, comprising the acts of:

generating a first game, wherein a play in the first game comprises randomly generating a first game result;

associating a first particular first game result with a win of the first game;
generating a bonus game, wherein the bonus game comprises non-randomly
generating a bonus game result, and wherein non-randomly generating the bonus
game result comprises associating a second particular first game result with
generating a count value; and

associating exceeding a particular count value with a win of the bonus game.

18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein non-randomly generating the bonus game result comprises:

associating a bonus hit value with the second particular first game result; and generating the count value by combining the bonus hit value with a common bonus counter value, wherein the common bonus counter value is associated with bonus hit values generated by one or more gaming machines in a system of linked gaming machines.

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25 METRO DRIVE SUITE 700 SAN JOSE, CA 95110 (408) 453-9200 FAX (408) 453-7979 Cant D3 19. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein non-randomly generating the bonus game result comprises:

associating a bonus hit value with the second particular first game result; incrementing a hit counter value in a particular gaming machine; and generating the count value by combining the bonus hit value, the hit counter value, and a common bonus counter value, wherein the common bonus counter value is associated with bonus hit values generated by one or more gaming machines in a system of linked gaming machines, and wherein the system of linked gaming machines comprises the particular gaming machine.

20. (New) The method of claim 17 further comprising:

associating a bonus hit value with the second particular first game result; incrementing a hit counter in a particular gaming machine;

generating a first count value by combining the bonus hit value with a common bonus counter value, wherein the common bonus counter value is associated with bonus hit values generated by one or more gaming machines in a system of linked gaming machines, wherein the system of linked gaming machines comprises the particular gaming machine; and

generating a second count value by combining the bonus hit value, the hit counter value, and a common bonus counter value, wherein the common bonus counter value is associated with bonus hit values generated by one or more gaming machines in the system of linked gaming machines, and wherein associating exceeding a particular count value with a win of the bonus game comprises exceeding the second particular count value;

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wherein associating exceeding the particular count value with a win of the bonus game comprises the first count value exceeding a first particular count value or the second count value exceeding a second particular count value.

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